ADVERTISEMENT BIDS WANTED

Sealed bids will be received by Catawba County, in the Government Center, 100-A South West Boulevard, Newton, North Carolina, until 2:00 P.M. on May 18, 2006, in the second floor conference room, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for the **Sewer Line Extension to serve the Balls Creek Elementary School Area**, Catawba County, North Carolina.

The work will consist of constructing approximately 15,728 linear feet of gravity sewer lines, a wastewater pump station, approximately 7,646 linear feet of force main sewer, and all related appurtenances.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a cash deposit or certified check drawn on some bank or trust company insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, of an amount equal to not less than 5 percent of the proposal, or in lieu thereof a bidder may offer a bid bond of 5 percent of the bid prepared on the form of Bid Bond contained within the Contract Documents or a Surety Company's Standard Bid Bond form, duly executed by the Bidder as principal, and executed by a surety company licensed under the laws of North Carolina to execute such bonds and listed in the latest issue of U. S. Treasury Circular 570, conditioned that the surety will upon demand forthwith make payment to the obligee upon said bond if the bidder fails to execute the contract in accordance with the bid bond. Said deposit shall be retained by the Owner as liquidated damages in event of failure of the successful bidder to execute the contract within ten days after the award or to give satisfactory surety as required by law.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Construction Performance Bond and a Construction Payment Bond as security for the faithful performance and the payment of all bills and obligations arising from the performance of the Contract.

Plans and specifications and Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations: W.K. Dickson & Co., Inc., 401 4th Street SW, Suite 201, Hickory, North Carolina, Phone (828) 327-6911, Catawba County, Engineer's Office, Government Center, 100-A Southwest Boulevard, Newton, North Carolina; at the Associated General Contractors Office in Charlotte, North Carolina; at the F.W. Dodge Plan Room in Charlotte, North Carolina; and at the Metrolina Minority Contractors Associates (MMCA), 418 West Trade Street, Charlotte, NC 28202. Plans, specifications, and Contract Documents may be obtained from the Engineer upon payment of a non-refundable cost of \$ 100.00 for each set.

On May 4, 2006 at 2:00 P.M., a Pre-bid Conference for all Prospective Bidders will be held in the Second Floor Meeting Room in the Government Center, 100-A Southwest Boulevard; Newton, North Carolina. Attendance is encouraged. The purpose of this conference is to answer any questions pertaining to the scope and nature of the proposed construction and to discuss the Catawba County's Outreach Plan and Guidelines. Catawba County has an Outreach Goal of 5% minority participation for this project.

All bidders are hereby notified that in compliance with North Carolina General Statutes, 133-3, Catawba County has identified a specific preferred brand item for this project. The preferred brand is Flyght pumps as referenced in Alternate No. 1. The specific preferred brand item listed will be an agenda item at the pre-bid conference.

No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids for a period of 90 days.

The Contractor shall comply with the Department of Labor Safety and Health Regulations for construction promulgated under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (PL91-596) and under Section 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (PL91-54), or latest revisions.

Consideration will be given to Contractors licensed in their particular field in the State of North Carolina, under Chapter 87, General Statues of North Carolina.

Qualified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Contractors and Suppliers are encouraged to submit bids.

General Contractors are notified that "An Act to Regulate the Practices of General Contracting" ratified by the General Assembly on March 10, 1925, and as subsequently amended will be observed in receiving bids and awarding General Contracts.

All Qualification Packages, per Number 10. of the Instructions to Bidders, must be submitted at least seven (7) days prior to the advertised bid date.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities and technicalities.

Barry Edwards, County Engineer 828-465-8261